

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 141250

66

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:SEWARD/HLK

APPROVED BY ACTING SECRETARY

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

S/S:WHLUERS

----- 079358

Z O 290034Z JUN 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW FLASH

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 141250

EXDIS TOSEC 150

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LE, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FRANGIE'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON

REF: BEIRUT 7445

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SISCO

1. BY NOW YOU WILL HAVE SEEN TEXT OF LETTER FROM LEBANESE PRESIDENT FRANGIE TO PRESIDENT NIXON (BEIRUT 7445). OUR ANALYSIS IS THAT FRANGIE HAS SENT LETTER PRIMARILY TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON HIM TO "DO SOMETHING" ABOUT SITUATION CREATED BY ISRAELI RETALIATORY ATTACKS. HE CAN NOW GET OUT WORD THAT HE HAS BROUGHT PROBLEM DIRECTLY TO ATTENTION OF THE PRESIDENT. WE NOTE THAT MESSAGE CONTAINS NO OPERATIVE REQUESTS AND IS ESSENTIALLY A DISCLAIMER OF RESPONSIBILITY AND A CATALOGUE OF ALLEGED INJUSTICES. YOU WILL HAVE NOTED THAT FRANGIE HAS REPORTEDLY SENT A SIMILAR COMMUNICATION TO BREZHNEV. MY RECOMMENDATION IS THAT A REPLY FROM THE PRESIDENT BE SENT IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO AVOID A SITUATION WHERE SOVIETS MAY PRESS US FOR SOME KIND OF JOINT RESPONSE.

2. I BELIEVE PRESIDENT SHOULD SEND SYMPATHETIC REPLY TO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 141250

FRANGIE, COUCHED IN GENERAL TERMS, WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL

TO FRANGIE IN DEALING WITH HARD-LINERS WHO ARE URGING
LEBANON TO ACCEPT ARMS AND/OR TROOPS FROM OTHER ARAB
STATES. SUGGESTED TEXT FOLLOWS:

3. QUOTE:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE RECEIPT OF
YOUR MESSAGE OF JUNE 28 CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN
LEBANON AND THE DANGER IT POSES FOR PEACE. I, TOO, HAVE
BEEN DEEPLY CONCERNED AT THE INCREASED LEVEL OF
VIOLENCE IN RECENT DAYS. WE HAVE DONE, AND SHALL CONTINUE
TO DO, EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CALM THE SITUATION. AS
YOU ARE AWARE, THIS RENEWED CYCLE OF VIOLENCE COMES AT
A TIME WHEN WE ARE ALL WORKING TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK
FOR THE NEXT STEPS ON THE ROAD TO PEACE. AS I EMPHASIZED
DURING MY RECENT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, I CAN ASSURE
YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES FULLY APPRECIATES THAT ANY
COMPREHENSIVE, MEANINGFUL, ENDURING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE
EAST MUST TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE RIGHT OF ALL
STATES IN THE AREA TO EXIST. NEW OUTBREAKS OF VIOLENCE,
AND THE ATTENDING DEATH AND SUFFERING INFLICTED ON
INNOCENT VICTIMS, CAN ONLY SERVE TO RETARD PROGRESS
IN RESOLVING THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE
EAST DISPUTE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT
SUPPORT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY
OF LEBANON HAS LONG BEEN A CARDINAL POINT IN OUR MIDDLE
EAST POLICY. I REAFFIRM THIS POLICY AND ASSURE YOU,
MR. PRESIDENT, THAT MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES THE
GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO OUR LONG-STANDING FRIENDSHIP AND
CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF LEBANON. IT IS
MY HOPE AND BELIEF THAT WE SHALL WORK TOGETHER, AS
WE HAVE WORKED IN THE PAST, TO BRING ABOUT CONDITIONS
CONDUCTIVE TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND A MORE
DECENT EXISTENCE FOR ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE AREA.

SINCERELY,

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 141250

RICHARD NIXON. END QUOTE.

4. I WANT YOU TO KNOW I HAD A HEART-TO-HEART TALK ON
"PERSONAL" BASIS WITH LEBANESE AMBASSADOR KABBANI THIS
AFTERNOON; MEETING HAD BEEN ARRANGED PRIOR TO RECEIPT
OF FRANGIE LETTER. I IMPRESSED UPON KABBANI THAT GOL
SHOULD BE AWARE THAT LEBANON-FEDAYEEN-ISRAELI SITUATION,
AS SEEN FROM HERE, IS CAUSE FOR SERIOUS CONCERN. WHILE

EXPRESSING UNDERSTANDING FOR DIFFICULT DILEMMA FACING
LEBANON, I MADE POINT THAT EVEN WITH BEST INTENTIONS,
WE CANNOT ACHIEVE UNILATERAL ISRAELI RESTRAINT. WE HAVE

BEEN ABLE TO CALM MATTERS OVER PAST FEW DAYS, BUT
SITUATION IS VERY DELICATE. I SUGGESTED TO KABBANI
THAT AT JULY 1 CAIRO MEETING OF ARAB DEFENSE AND
FOREIGN MINISTERS, LEBANESE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO
ENLIST SUPPORT OF OTHER ARAB STATES TO COUNSEL
RESTRAINT ON FEDAYEEN. I STRESSED THAT IT WAS
IMPORTANT WE BE GIVEN TIME AS WE SEEK TO LAY THE GROUND-
WORK FOR THE NEXT STAGES IN THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS.
ARAB FAILURE TO RESTRAIN FEDAYEEN RAIDS FROM LEBANON
COULD JEOPARDIZE ENTIRE PEACEMAKING PROCESS TO
ULTIMATE DETRIMENT OF REAL INTERESTS OF LEBANESE,
PALESTINIANS, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES INVOLVED. SISCO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REVANCHISM, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE141250
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SEWARD/HLK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740172-0698
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974061/aaaaaalm.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: BEIRUT 7445
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT FRANGIE'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON
TAGS: PFOR, LE, US, (NIXON, RICHARD M), (FRANGIE, SLEIMAN)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005